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LETTER DATED 23 DECEMBER 1991 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF GHANA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

On behalf of the African Group of States at the United Nations, I have the honour to transmit a copy of the Statement of the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity on the Report No. S/23299 of the United Nations Secretary-General on Western Sahara and request you to have it circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Kofi Nyidevu AWOONOR
Ambassador/Permanent Representative
Chairman of the African Group

Annex

Statement of the General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity on Report No. S/23299 of the United Nations Secretary-General on Western Sahara

The General Secretariat of the Organization of African Unity has taken note of the Report of 19 December 1991 submitted to the United Nations Security Council by the United Nations Secretary-General on the situation in Western Sahara (Report No. S/23299). It notes that new elements with respect to the criteria for identification are being proposed by the United Nations Secretary-General in the report.

The General Secretariat of the OAU wishes to recall that this conflict remains one of the issues of utmost concern to the Organization of African Unity. It is the search for a just and equitable solution to the conflict which prompted the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, meeting in Addis Ababa on 11 June 1983, to map out a general framework for resolving the conflict through resolution AHG/RES.104(XIX).

The efforts of the OAU and of the United Nations culminated in the establishment of a Peace Plan accepted by the two parties to the conflict, and endorsed by the Security Council in its resolution 690 (1991) by which it decided on the organization of a referendum in Western Sahara to be conducted with the cooperation of the OAU.

The OAU reaffirms its commitment to the observance of the Peace Plan as accepted by the two parties in conflict as well as its support for the Plan's implementation in its entirety with the full cooperation of the two parties.

Any change or modification to the elements of the Peace Plan already accepted by the parties in conflict would be prejudicial to the process as well as to the organization of a free and fair referendum for self-determination by the people of Western Sahara. In this regard, the OAU wishes to appeal to members of the Security Council to ensure that the integrity of the Peace Plan as accepted by the parties in conflict and endorsed by the international community is safeguarded and its terms unaltered.

Addis Ababa,
23 December 1991